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NATIONAL EGG MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



In New York, prices were unchanged when compared to the previous report. Elsewhere, weekly prices were sharply lower on the larger sizes and slightly lower on the lighter weight eggs when compared to last week's values. Trade sentiment was mostly barely steady to weak. Demand was light to instances good, best in areas where severe winter weather conditions and post holiday deliveries were a factor. Supplies were adequate to ample for current trade needs. Breaking stock offerings were sufficient to fully adequate for the light to moderate demand. Spent hens were generally sufficient for the moderate demand. Slaughter schedules were reported as less than normal.

PRICES TO RETAILERS, SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED WAREHOUSE, CENTS PER DOZEN

MIDWEST REGIONAL Prices to producers in IA-MN-WI were 5 cents lower for large with prices to retailers lower on all sizes. Trade sentiment was about steady to barely steady. Cartoned egg demand continued in a full range of light to very good while deliveries resumed after the holiday and severe winter storms that hampered movement late last week. Loose egg sales were moderate to instances good. Floor stocks were balanced to ample. Central states breaking stock prices were unchanged. Offerings were adequate to fully adequate with demand light and unaggressive. Supplies adequate to fully adequate. Trade sentiment steady.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	50-60	51-57
LARGE	49-59	50-54
MEDIUM	28-38	30-33
MIDWEST AREA: IA,IL,IN,KY,MI,MN,OH,NE,ND,SD,WI,WV, western NY, and western PA		

IA-MN-WI - Prices paid to producers.			
	RANGE	MOSTLY	
LARGE	33-41	36	
MEDIUM	12-17	15	
SMALL	4-6		

NORTHEAST REGIONAL Prices were sharply lower when compared to last week's values. Trade sentiment was barely steady to instances weak beginning the week. Retail and distributive demand ranged light to at times good. Supplies were adequate to available for current trade requirements. Breaking stock offerings were sufficient for normal to reduced schedules. Spent hens were generally sufficient for a moderate demand.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	58-73	59-62
LARGE	52-66	57-61
MEDIUM	31-44	36-38

NORTHEAST AREA: CT,DC,DE,MA,MD,ME,NH,eastern NJ,eastern PA, RI, northern VA & VT

SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL Extra large and large prices sharply lower, mediums decreased 4 cents. Trade sentiment was mixed, about steady to instances weak. Retail demand generally good, best where winter weather provided additional activity. Food service movement was moderate. Supplies were in close balance. Central States breaking stock prices were unchanged. Offerings were adequate to fully adequate with demand light and unaggressive. Floor stocks adequate to fully adequate. Trade sentiment steady.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	57.5-66	59-62
LARGE	56.5-65	58-61
MEDIUM	34.5-43	36-39

SOUTH CENTRAL AREA: AR,AZ,CO,KS,LA,MO,NM,OK, and TX

SOUTHEAST REGIONAL Prices were sharply lower when compared last week's values. Trade sentiment was barely steady to weak. Demand was light to at times fairly good. Supplies were adequate to ample for current trade requirements. Breaking stock offerings were sufficient for normal to reduced processing schedules. Light type hens were generally adequate for the moderate demand.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	56.5-73.25	58-61
LARGE	55-71.25	56-59
MEDIUM	33.5-39.25	34-38

SOUTHEAST AREA: AL, FL, GA, MS, NC, SC, eastern TN, and southern VA

PRICES TO RETAILERS, SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED STORE DOOR, CENTS PER DOZEN

CHICAGO AND MIDWEST Prices for the all sizes were sharply lower. The market tone was barely steady to weak. Retail and food service demand was light to moderate, instances good when featured. Supplies are adequate.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	57-65	59-61
LARGE	56-61	57-60
MEDIUM	37-44	38-40

MIDWEST AREA: IA,IL,IN,KY,MI,MN,OH,NE,ND,SD,WI,WV, western NY, and western PA

NEW YORK Prices were unchanged on all sizes. Trade sentiment was barely steady to weak entering the week. Demand was light to instances good. Supplies were adequate to available for trade requirements.

	RANGE
EXTRA LARGE	66-70
LARGE	64-68
MEDIUM	43-47

WESTERN Prices 12 cents lower on jumbo, 14 cents lower on extra large, 16 cents lower on large, and 4 cents lower on medium throughout the region. The Pacific region inventory was 8% lower than last Monday with California down 18% and Oregon- Washington-Utah up 12%. Retailer demand moderate. Offerings ample.

CALIFORNIA Prices 12 cents lower on jumbo, 14 cents lower on extra large, 16 cents lower on large, and 4 cents lower on medium and small. The California inventory was 18% lower than last Monday. Retailer demand mainly moderate. Offerings ample. Small benchmark price 51. Ads and prices to consumers in Northern California were not available.

California Egg Marketing Association and other marketers benchmark price for negotiated egg sales of USDA Grade AA and Grade AA in cartons, cents per dozen. This price does not reflect discounts or other contract terms.

	RANGE
JUMBO	104
EXTRA LARGE	100
LARGE	91
MEDIUM	71

Prices to consumers major chains, metropolitan area, USDA Grade AA and grade AA, white eggs in cartons, cents per dozen

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA		NORTHERN CALIFORNIA	
	RANGE		RANGE
JUMBO	249-269	JUMBO	
EXTRA LARGE	219-289	EXTRA LARGE	NOT
LARGE	199-239	LARGE	AVAILABLE
MEDIUM	189-205	MEDIUM	

NATIONAL RETAIL EGG PURCHASES REPORT Cooperators estimate orders for the week ending December 31, 2004 will decrease by 18 percent. Present week purchases for the week ending December 24, 2004 were 260,524 cases which was 3 percent below the prior week and 2 percent above estimates.

	CARTONED	LOOSE	TOTAL
Cases purchased present week.....	228,480	32,044	260,524
% change from the prior week.....	-1	-14	-3

Comparison figures are compiled on a matched plant basis. Purchases and estimates by 14 cooperators; 30 dozen cases or equivalent.

CENTRAL STATES BREAKING STOCK Prices were unchanged. Offerings were adequate to fully adequate with demand light and unaggressive. Floor stocks adequate to fully adequate. Trade sentiment steady.

PRICES PAID TO 11:00 AM, MATERIAL EXCHANGED, 30 DOZEN CASE EQUIVALENT, 48 LB. MINIMUM NET WEIGHT, DELIVERED TO BREAKERS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
BREAKING STOCK	25-30	
CHECKS & UNDERGRADES	12-16	13-15
CENTRAL STATES AREA:		
AR,CO,IA,IL,IN,KS,LA,MI,MN,MO,NM,ND,NE,OH,OK,SD,TX,WI		

SOUTH CENTRAL HEAVY LIVE HEN Trading levels were generally unchanged from the past week. Demand was moderate for fully adequate offerings of spent hens. Finished sales had slowed. Schedules were reduced. Trade sentiment was about steady.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP)*
FINAL PRICE, GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF
27-DEC-04

	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	7.75-15 CENTS/LB.	10-11.5	10.98
*WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.			

SOUTHEAST LIVE HEAVY HEN Majority prices were unchanged when compared to a week earlier. Demand was at least moderate for the about adequate to adequate offerings. Processing schedules were less than normal due to the holiday. Sales of finished product were sufficient and clearing satisfactorily. The undertone was steady to fully steady.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP)*
FINAL PRICE, GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF
27-DEC-04

	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	8.25-15.25 CENTS/LB.	11-13	11.93
AT FARM PRODUCER LOADING	TOO FEW TO REPORT		
FOB PLANT	TOO FEW TO REPORT		
* WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.			

WEEKLY SHELL EGG INVENTORY REPORT- DECEMBER 27, 2004

STOCKS ON HAND AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING 1/
(30 DOZEN CASES-IN THOUSANDS)

		NO	SO	SO	5-Area	
		Northeast	CENT	Atl	Pacific	
Jumbo	Curr Wk	8.0	17.2	8.5	17.0	60.8
	Change	-3.6	1.9	-0.4	2.2	-4%
Ex Lge	Curr Wk	23.8	56.7	22.2	34.8	174.5
	Change	-6.4	6.8	2.2	3.4	2%
Large	Curr Wk	55.3	145.5	68.8	121.7	507.0
	Change	-12.3	24.6	3.7	-8.1	-1%
Medium	Curr Wk	13.7	55.8	12.0	23.0	135.4
	Change	-3.4	15.7	1.0	1.2	9%
Small	Curr Wk	6.7	8.8	1.2	6.5	31.4
	Change	1.6	0.5	0.5	1.7	7%
Misc	Curr Wk	5.1	35.5	8.4	16.2	71.0
	Change	-1.4	3.4	-0.8	3.6	7%
Ungraded	Curr Wk	20.1	60.8	32.6	34.6	186.4
	Change	1.1	25.3	9.3	0.1	26%
Total	Curr Wk	132.7	380.3	153.7	253.8	1166.5
Percent	Change	-16%	26%	11%	2%	5%
TOTAL				Number of	Percent	Number of
				Cases	Change	Cooperators

Shell Egg	1166.5	5%	173
Shell Egg Breaking Stock	220.8	25%	35

Total Shell Egg 1387.3 8% 208
1/ Information supplied by a universe of 173 cooperators who normally have stocks on hand each Monday A.M. and is on the basis of matched plants reporting in both the current and previous weeks. Sample does not represent total U.S. inventory but includes eggs packed for export when in cooperator's coolers.

No valid comparison can be made with year ago or previous months' figures due to changes in number of plants surveyed, holidays falling in different weeks or changes in size of plant operations.

Northeast- CT, DE, MA, MD, ME, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, VT
North Central - IA, IL, IN, MI, MN, ND, NE, OH, SD, WI
South Central - AR, CO, KS, LA, MO, NM, OK, TX
South Atlantic - AL, FL, GA, KY, MS, NC, SC, TN, VA, WV
Pacific- AZ, CA, ID, MT, NV, OR, UT, WA, WY

CANADIAN EGGS QUEBEC/MONTREAL: WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE TO RETAILERS (CANADIAN DOLLARS) GRADED IN CARTONS, AS REPORTED BY AGRICULTURE AND AGRI-FOOD CANADA, AISD, AID, POULTRY SECTION FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 15, 2004

GRADE A	XLARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
	1.97	1.94	1.85	1.16

MINIMUM PRODUCER PRICES FOB FARM FOR THE WEEK COMMENCING NOVEMBER 15, 2004 AS ESTABLISHED BY ONTARIO EGG PRODUCERS MARKETING BOARD.

GRADE A	XLARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
	1.52	1.52	1.42	.77

TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES — DAILY WTD AVERAGE PRICES (CENTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR DECEMBER 24, 2004

CURRENT LOADS 4.00							FUTURE LOADS 3.50				TOTAL LOADS 7.50				
SE			NE		MW		LOADS	SC		NW		SW		LOADS	
CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST		CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG		DST
GL W XL	--	--	--	--	--	--	1.50	GL W MD	--	--	28.00	--	--	33.00	4.00
								GL BR MD	21.00	--	--	--	--	25.00	1.00
								NRBS - 39	--	--	--	--	15.00	16.00	1.00

TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES — WEEKLY (5-DAY) WTD AVE PRICES (CENTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR DEC 20, 2004-DEC 24, 2004

CURRENT LOADS 58.25							FUTURE LOADS 52.50		TOTAL LOADS 110.75						
SE		NE		MW		LOADS		SC		NW		SW		LOADS	
CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST		CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	
GNR W 1	47.00	48.00	44.67	45.63	60.50	47.00	11.00	GNR W 1	--	39.00	--	--	--	--	2.00
GNR BR 1	--	59.00	--	--	--	--	1.00	GL W XL	40.31	48.63	--	--	--	50.00	11.75
GL W J	--	--	70.50	72.00	--	--	1.00	GL W LG	40.80	50.33	--	--	--	46.57	8.25
GL W XL	49.50	56.29	57.13	56.22	40.03	46.83	30.25	GL W MD	27.00	30.00	28.00	--	--	33.47	11.25
GL W LG	--	64.00	--	--	54.00	--	7.75	GL BR MD	21.00	--	--	--	--	25.00	1.00
GL W MD	--	32.00	--	--	24.50	24.00	8.00	NRBS - 39	15.00	17.00	--	--	15.00	16.00	2.00
GL W SM	23.50	26.00	21.33	23.17	--	--	5.00								
NRBS - 48	--	--	25.00	26.50	24.33	27.18	43.00								
NRBS - 39	--	--	23.50	22.92	--	--	6.00								

WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICES ARE LISTED FOR VARIOUS CLASSES PRICED BY ORIGIN AND/OR DESTINATION FOR 6 REGIONS. THE LOADS COLUMN REFLECTS TOTAL LOADS REPORTED AND INCLUDES LOADS WITH PRICES TO BE DETERMINED LATER. NRBS CATEGORIES REPRESENT NET WEIGHT - MATERIAL MAY OR MAY NOT BE INCLUDED.

COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT-FROZEN EGGS (In Thousands)

ON HAND	12/20/04	12/13/04	12/22/03
PACIFIC COAST	410	539	208
LOS ANGELES	396	530	126

CERTIFIED ORGANIC EGGS IN CARTONS

(price per carton delivered to first receivers)

Brown Eggs	CENTS/CARTON	MOSTLY
Extra Large doz.	222 – 260	239 - 240
1/2 doz.	120 – 151	130 - 134
Large doz.	217 – 250	225 - 230
1/2 doz.	115 – 142	125 - 128

NORTH CAROLINA EGGS

Data unavailable due to Christmas Holidays.

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